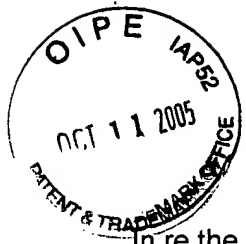


AF/2654 <sup>ZKW</sup>



Corres. and Mail  
**BOX AF**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2654

Docket No.: 826.1726

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yoshio NAKAO

Serial No. 09/862,437

Group Art Unit: 2654

Confirmation No. 8890

Filed: May 23, 2001

Examiner: Abdelali Serrou

For: APPARATUS FOR READING A PLURALITY OF DOCUMENTS AND A METHOD  
THEREOF

**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attention: **BOX AF**

Sir:

Further to the Request to Restart Period for Response to Office Action filed September 27, 2005, this is in response to the Office Action mailed June 24, 2005, and having a period for response set to expire on September 24, 2005. If the Request to Restart Period for Response is not granted, a Petition for a one-month extension of time is hereby requested with the requisite fee of \$120 charged to our Deposit Account 19-3935.

In the June 24, 2005 Office Action, an article by "Stein et al. (Computational Intelligence, v 16, n 4, Nov 2000 p. 606-613)" (Office Action, page 4, lines 4-5) was cited in rejecting the claims. A Verified English Translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-290886, filed September 25, 2000 is submitted herewith. Since the subject application claims priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-290886, Stein et al. is not prior art.

SGM

For the above reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejections in the June 24, 2005 Office Action relying on Stein et al. be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 10/14/05

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